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9 June 1964

MEMO FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Manpower Sections

CLASS. CIA REG 101-15 S 10
AUTH: HR 104
DATE: 11/5/80 REVIEWER: 000256

25X1A9a 1. [REDACTED] and I met yesterday with Miss Julia Hyman and Mr. William C. Shelton, 1100-1230, in his office, Room 407 Columbian Building, 416 5th Street, NW, to discuss primarily bibliographies and photographs.

2. The numbered list of sources following the commentary on them has long been an accepted practice in the NIS. It originated in the Department of the Army contributions to State-coordinated Economic coverage. The early contributions were so inadequate that State insisted Army and other Pentagon contributors provide a bibliography so that State could check on the adequacy of their research. This need has long passed but the practice of numbered sources, lending an aura of academic responsibility to the NIS, has persisted. We find in practice the bibliography is not only not available to most readers, but it is of little interest to them. A researcher inquiring into the credibility of data in the NIS would come to the Bureau of Labor Statistics anyway for further particulars. Unlike departmental monographs, national intelligence carries with it its own assumption of credibility and does not use bibliographies. Over half the NIS has not used them for some time; ORR, the Bureau of Mines, and DIA are phasing them out. As we see it at the moment, the full list of sources mainly serves analysts undertaking maintenance. For these purposes each agency is invited to continue to prepare such a list to be retained with its own file copy of each submission, but the list would not be published with the section.

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3. Miss Hyman agreed with this and said that all future manpower sections would come to OBI without the list. They would comment on the general state of information in the manpower field, point out gaps in the data, and credit in the running text any works or agencies deserving special mention in their support of this kind of data on any given country. She wanted some sample of the type of comment we approve, and [REDACTED] agreed to invite her attention by telephone to suitable samples. Miss Hyman said the lists now published in all other Sociological sections were useful to BLS analysts in preparing Section 44. After some discussion we said we would invite [REDACTED] and OSI to send to Miss Hyman a copy of the research list at the time future Sociological sections are submitted to OBI, and asked if she would reciprocate if the other contributors so desired. The filing of these lists by country should not overburden their storage facilities.

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4. Miss Hyman noted that the comments on sources were to be in the present tense. I recognized the difficulties in talking to analysts about what tense to use. I said that the NIS was written in immediate retrospect much as one would write a trip report. Adverbs expressing time such as recently or currently always seem unnecessary and inappropriate. If the text is so written an impression of obsolescence is avoided when it is viewed three years later. Because the comments on sources characterize the general state of information on a given topic, the present tense is used.

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5. [redacted] urged careful selection of photographs, at the same time pointing out that BLS had usually shown good judgment in choice of graphic material to accompany Section 44. He spoke of choice of photographs for their informational value and their relevance to the text and to distinctive conditions in each country. For example, industrial installations indistinguishable from those in the United States would provide little information on a highly organized country such as Japan or West Germany. If the scene, however, showed such machinery poorly maintained or lacking proper safety devices or showing unusual working conditions, it could save a lot of text. The figure should be supported by the text and should illustrate a point made in the text. [redacted] cited as an example of poor illustration a figure in the recently submitted Section 44 for Syria. It was supposed to illustrate the extensive use of manpower in the textile industry. Instead, it shows the interior of a large textile plant, with a few persons at work, but so distant and indistinct that the costume of the workers was not apparent.

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6. In passing we mentioned the over-use of statistics in the West Germany Manpower section where pages 287-312 are devoted to tables, many of which reassemble the same data and are not tied into the text. Both Mr. Shelton and Miss Hyman smiled wisely, said that we should have seen what had already been deleted, and encouraged our efforts to reduce further this holocaust of statistics.

7. Mr. Shelton voiced his intention to persuade us to change the title of the Section 44 from "Manpower" to "Labor". He spoke of the broad category of human resources, now the subject of a Geneva conference. The next main category under human resources, he said, is labor, and manpower is a part of labor. He somewhat equated human resources with NIS sociological coverage. Julia asked him "what about babies and other dependents - were they resources in this sense?" Shelton said they would be classified as "future resources". I suggested our main interest in some sections could be in the groups into which people arrange themselves as families, kinship groups or tribes, and in the structure of such arrangements. Mr. Shelton returned to manpower as a subdivision of labor, and I explained that the NIS was a community effort and I had no latitude to negotiate; it was an NIS Committee matter. Shelton asked if it would be appropriate for

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Mr. Weaver to write the chairman of the NIS Committee. I saw no objection to this but pointed out that [REDACTED] is the chairman of this committee, and I am the vice chairman, and he would be talking to the same people. Nonetheless, he expects to set forth his argument eventually in such a memo. He was assured that we were in no hurry for it.

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DAD/Binh

Distribution:

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1 - Labor (SC file)

1 - [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

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